

STORY 50.

HOW READILY MUSLIMS SHED THEIR BLOOD
FOR ISLAM AND HOW CHEERFULLY THEY
BORE THEIR TRIALS.

(HAZRAT) HARIS BIN SURAQAH was a youth who was too young to take part in a battle. But his love for the prophet and his zeal for the cause of Islam were so great that he joined the Muslim Army at the battle of Badr. He fought very bravely, but received an arrow, and fell dead.

His mother received the news of his death, but she neither shed tears nor expressed her grief in any other way. When the Prophet returned to Medina she went into his presence and said, "Prophet of God! You can realize the shock that the tragic death of (Hazrat) Haris, my youthful son has caused to me. But I have been patient. I am only anxious to know whether his sacrifice has been accepted."

The Prophet assured her that her son had died the death of a martyr, and had found a place in heaven. She was satisfied and went away as if nothing had happened.

STORY 51.

MUSLIMS DID NOT FEAR ANY ONE
IN SPEAKING THE TRUTH.

ONCE (Hazrat) Omar was addressing the congregation in the Prophet's Mosque. In the course of his speech he said, "Muslims; What will you do if I become lax in observing the principles of Islam, and incline to worldliness?" One of the audience at once stood up, and drawing his sword from the scabbard said, "We shall strike off your head." In order to test his sincerity (Hazrat) Omar said to him in a stern tone, "do you know what you are saying and to whom?" The man said, "yes, I know what I am saying and to whom I am speaking." Upon this (Hazrat) Omar thanked God that among the muslims there were men who if he went astray would set him right even at the point of the sword.